Message Text

SECRET

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S E C R E T STATE 164376

EXDIS MILITARY HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT ATHENS 5456 ACTION STATE INFO ANKARA BRUSSELS NICOSIA USNATO USDOCOSOUTH JUNE 28.

QUOTE E C R E T ATHENS 5456

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAL EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PEPR, GR, TU

SUBJECT: GREEK REINTEGRATION INTO NATO - U.S. APPROACHES

REF: (A) STATE 163856 (B) STATE 161694

1. I SAW PRIME MINISTER KARAMANLIS THIS MORNING AND CONVEYED THE POINTES IN REFTEL (B) PARA 4.

PRIOR TO RECEIVING REFTEL I HAD ASKED FOR A MEETING IN ORDER TO HAVE A GENERAL DISCUSSION BEFORE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK. I WILL REPORT THE SUBSTANCE IN SEPTEL.

2. THE PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE SECRET

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SECRETARY'S PERSONAL MESSAGE BUT THEN PROCEEDED TO CRITICIZE TURKEY FOR PLACING OBSTACLES IN THE PATH OF GREEKREINTEGRATION INTO NATO AND FURTHER FOR CREATING DIFFICULTIES WHICH ARE COMPLICATING THE PROCESS BY WHICH GREECE ENTERS THE EC.

3. KARAMANLIS GIVES A HIGH PRIORITY TO GREECE'S REINTEGRATION INTO NATO. HE IS CONCERNED THAT THE REMAINING PROBLEM AREAS

BE WORKED OUT SATISFACTORILY AND THAT TURKEY ACT RESPONSIBLY
NOT TO BLOCK GREECE'S RE-ENTRY. IT WOULD BE AN OVERSTATEMENT
TO SAY THAT THE GOG "HAS NOW DELINKED NATO REINTEGRATION FROM
SOLVING OF CYPRUS PROBLEM", AND I DO NOT ADVISE AMBASSADOR
SPIERS TO RAISE THIS SUBJECT WITH ECEVIT. BUT, KARAMANLIS
DOES VIEW THE TWO AS DIFFERENT ISSUES. NATO RELATES TO GREECE'S
NATIONAL SECURITY. CYPRUS IS AN EMOTIONAL ISSUE TO GREEKS
AND A WEATHERVANE OF GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS. KARMANLIS CONTENDS
THAT GREATER ACCOMMODATION BY TURKEY COULD SOLVE CYPRUS AND
WOULD CONSEQUENTLY RUB OFF FAVORABLY IN NEGOTIATIONS
OF GREEK-TURKISH BILATERAL DISPUTES.

- 4. LIKE ECEVIT, KARAMANLIS IS NOT NOW IN A POSITION TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENTS REFUTING AS PRECEDENTS WHATEVER NATO COMMAND ARRANGEMENTS THAT MIGHT BE EVENTUALLY WORKED OUT. AS TO THE MEETING OF MFA SECRETARIES GENERAL IN ANKARA ON JULY 4-5, THE RESULTS DEPEND, OF COURSE, ON BOTH SIDES BEING AS FORTH-COMING AS POSSIBLE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS NO FIXED AGENDA OR TOPICS OTHER THAN KARAMANLIS' NON-AGGRESSION PROPOSAL WHICH BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED TO DISCUSS. THEREFORE, KARAMANLIS IS UNLIKELY TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT ON THESE TALKS ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED BY EMBASSY ANKARA.
- 5. GREEKS FEEL THAT THE FIR PROBLEM IN THE AEGEAN HAS BEEN LARGELY AGREED AT A TECHNICAL LEVEL, BUT THAT A FINAL RESOLUTION DEPENDS UPON THE POLITICAL WILLINGNESS OF THE TURKISH SIDE TO SECRET

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CARRY THROUGH ON WHAT HAS BEEN NEGOTIATED. ANY INTERIM FORMULA DEALING WITH THE AIR SPACE SHOULD, OF COURSE, NOT REFER SPECIFICALLY TO NOTAM 714 -- WHICH IS A RED FLAG HERE -- EVEN THOUGH SOME OF THOSE SAME PRINCIPLES COULD PROBABLY BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARRANGEMENTNT. MCCLOSKEY UNQUOTE VANCE

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